(b) and (c) Certain remote and tribal areas are prone to malnutrition combined with endemic disease. Approximately 363 blocks in 13 States have been identified as vulnerable pockets. Special measures, both short-term and long term, are called for and taken by the Government in the Ministries of Agriculture & Cooperation and Welfare as also by this Ministry. Some of the schemes such as Employment Assurance Scheme are demand driven and are designed to provide wage employment in these circumstances. In response to unprecedented drought in Orissa during 1996, substantial amount of funds have been released by the Union Government to the Government of Orissa for various Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Programmes and also for providing relief and assistance to weaker sections and tribal people.

Efforts are being continuously made to improve implementation of all rural development schemes. Under self employment schemes, measures are taken to raise the level of investment per family and to encourage group activities through the creation Self-Help Groups. Under Wage Employment Schemes, initiatives have been taken to work out the modalities of associating Self-Help Groups of rural landless poor with the execution of schemes and works under Employment Assurance Scheme. Steps have been taken for designing measures to make the Self-Help Groups functional and to identify the type of training required to be imparted to them as also to work out a strategy for instilling a sense of security in the persons registered with .Panchayat about the assurance of employment and measures for enhancing the employment content. Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, funds are now allocated among District, Intermediate and Village Panchayats in the ratio of 20:15:65 so that there is no undue delay in taking up wage employment works at the local level.

Central Assistance Under EAS to Andhra Pradesh

4216. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released as central share of assistance for implementation of Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) during 1997-98 in seven districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of blocks in the States included under the EAS; and

(c) the number of blocks is Chittoor and Guntur districts covered under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) Rs. 1000 lakhs was released to seven districts of Andhra Pradesh during 1997-98 as first instalment under Employment Assurance Scheme to 50 new blocks of the State @ 20 lakhs per block.

(b) and (c) All the blocks of the State of Andhra Pradesh have been covered under EAS with effected from 1.4.1997.

Monitoring of Long Team Action Programme for KBK Project

4217. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any monitoring regarding long term action programme for the KBK Project in Orissa has been conducted; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA-DEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Long term Action Plan (LTAP) for KBK districts of Orissa is being implemented by the Government of Orissa and also reviewed & monitored by

them. At the Central level the LTAP is being monitored and reviewed by the Committee of Secretaries. The last meeting of the Committee of Secretaries was held on 12.5.1997. The Planning Commission also held meetings to examine relaxations require for implementation of LTAP.

Million Wells Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

4218. SHRI V. HANUMANTHARAO: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Million Wells Scheme has been fully implemented, if so, the amount of funds spent on this scheme in 1995-96;

(b) the States which received maximum assistance under the Million Wells Scheme;

(c) the amount released for Andhra Pradesh in 1995-96 for this scheme; and

(d) the details of allocation of funds for Andhra Pradesh under the scheme for 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) million Wells Scheme (MWS) is being implemented throughout the country including Andhra Pradesh. The allocation under the Scheme are made on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a state to the total rural poor in the country. The details at the Central assistance released and funds utilised under Million Wells Scheme (MWS) during 1995-96 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Central allocation under MWS during 1996-97 to Andhra Pradesh was Rs. 3473.71 lakhs.

Statement

Statewise details of funds released and expenditure incurred under million wells scheme during 1995-96.

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Funds release	Expenditure incurred
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pr.	3473.70	2608.25
2.	Arunachal Pr.	29.02	71.46
3.	Assam	1143.53	666.70
4.	Bihar	6813.55	5719.22
5.	Goa	38.53	12.23
6.	Gujarat	1275.13	1494.06
7.	Haryana	306.30	168.40
8.	Himachal Pr.	122.43	184.29
9	Jammu & Kash.	189.02	216.89
10.	Karnataka	2332.44	3241.76
11.	Kerala	1528.27	1542.52
12.	Madhya Pr.	4401.69	4766.37
13	Maharashtra	3786.82	3416.04
14	Manipur	37.65	99.18
15.	Meghalaya	42.20	42.12
16.	Mizoram	22.53	40.27
17.	Nagaland	57.33	0.00
18.	Orissa	2817.99	4322.29
19.	Punjab	0.00	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	1828.74	825.77
21.	Sikkim	41.73	104.46
22.	Tamil Nadu	3140.16	4114.56
23.	Tripura	89.06	123.77
24.	Uttar Pr.	10965.30	11988.78
25.	West Bengal	3232.94	7341.71
26.	A&N Islands	16.56	9.35
27.	D&N Haveli	4.16	8.24
28.	Daman & Diu	6.76	0.00
29.	Lakshadweep	10.60	0.00
30.	Pondicherry	10.32	0.16
	Total	4776.4	53828.85

Bus Accidents on Highways

4219. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bus accidents on National Highways in each State during the last three years;

(b) the number of persons killed in these accidents;

(c) the reasons for these accidents; and